

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1063

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 5298

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, WB, GE, GW, UR

SUBJECT: RELATIONS BETWEEN SCHMIDT AND SCHUETZ

REF: USBERLIN 1155

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ TOOK
ADVANTAGE OF HIS FIRST CALL ON GAUS, HEAD OF FRG
REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN, TO TALK DOWN DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN HIMSELF AND SCHMIDT ON BERLIN ISSUES, DER ABEND
JUNE 18, CARRIED ARTICLE, DESCRIBED TO MISSION AS
ACCURATELY CONVEYING CONTENT OF RECENT INTERVIEW WITH SCHUETZ,
SUGGESTING RIFT PERSISTS. AT MEETING WITH COMMANDANTS
AND MINISTERS JUNE 16, SCHUETZ INDICATED HE WAS NOT
MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT PUBLICITY RE PURPORTED
DIFFERENCES WITH SCHMIDT; IT WAS INCUMBENT UPON
BERLIN'S GOVERNING MAYOR, NO MATTER WHO HE WAS, TO
TAKE STRONG PUBLIC STAND ON BERLIN QUESTIONS THAT
BONN MIGHT OTHERWISE WISH TO PLAY DOWN, SUBSTANTIVE
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DISAGREEMENTS DID NOT REALLY RUN DEEP. IN ANY EVENT,

GOOD DEAL OF STATIC HAS GONE OUT OF LOCAL ATMOSPHERE
SINCE REFTEL, AND SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS STOBBE
MAY HAVE PUT FINGER ON IT WHEN HE COMMENTED TO MINISTER
"SUMMER THEATER IS OVER." END SUMMARY.

1. UPON CONCLUSION OF HIS FIRST VISIT TO EAST BERLIN
TO MEET WITH GUENTER GAUS, HEAD OF FRG REPRESENTATION
TO GDR, GOVERNING MAYOR WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO DENY
TO PRESS THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS ON BERLIN
POLICIES BETWEEN HIM AND FRG ADMINISTRATION. SCHUETZ
SAID THAT THERE WERE NO SUCH DIFFERENCES OF OPINION
EITHER AS TO GENERAL POLICY OR AS TO DETAILS. COINCIDENTALLY,
PRESS HAS PUBLICIZED RESPONSE FROM CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT
TO LETTER FROM BERLIN CDU CHAIRMAN LORENZ IN REGARD
TO "QUICK" ARTICLE (USBERLIN 1098), IN WHICH SCHMIDT
SAID THAT AT NO TIME, EVEN IN REGARD TO NUANCES, HAD
HE FOUND DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN HIMSELF AND
SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND THAT THIS HELD TRUE FOR
STATEMENTS ON BERLIN. (SCHMIDT SAID THAT THIS WOULD
NOT BE THE FIRST TIME QUICK HAD BEEN GIVEN TO MALICIOUS
INVENTION.)

3. WHILE ABOVE STATEMENTS TEND FURTHER TO PLAY DOWN
REPORTS OF GROWING RIFT BETWEEN SCHUETZ AND CHANCELLOR,
DER ABEND JUNE 18 CARRIED STORY BY EDITOR JUERGEN
ENGERT, WHICH HEAD OF SENAT CHANCELLERY HERZ TOLD
ALLIED LIAISON OFFICERS WAS RESULT LONG DISCUSSION
BETWEEN SCHUETZ AND ENGERT, ENTITLED "ELECTOR KLAUS AND
EMPEROR SCHMIDT." ARTICLE SAID SCHUETZ'S ATTITUDE TOWARD
BONN RECALLED THAT OF GERMAN ELECTOR IN MIDDLE AGES, WHO
KNEW THAT EMPEROR COULD NOT IGNORE HIM. PAPER SAID RE-
LATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO WERE DISTINGUISHED ON ONE
SIDE BY "ALOOF COOLNESS" AND ON OTHER BY "HEARTY
APATHY," ESPECIALLY SINCE LORENZ KIDNAPPING AFFAIR, WHEN
SCHUETZ HAD BEEN PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE EXCHANGE OF
PRISONERS FOR LORENZ ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE.
DER ABEND TENDED TO SUBSTANTIATE SCHUETZ'S OWN EVALUATION
OF RELATIONSHIP (PARA 4), HOWEVER, WHEN IT SUGGESTED
THAT DIFFERENCES WERE LESS PERSONAL THAN POLITICAL OR
TACTICAL, I.E., SCHUETZ FELT IT NECESSARY TO COUNTER
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SOVIET-GDR CAMPAIGN AGAINST BERLIN DECISIVELY IF SPD
WERE TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC STANDING. IN THIS REGARD,
SCHUETZ IS REPORTED TO HAVE FULLY ASSOCIATED HIMSELF WITH
FONMIN GENSCHER'S VIEWS ON BERLIN, GERMANY AND OSTPOLITIK.

4. AT MONTHLY MEETING WITH COMMANDANTS AND MINISTERS,
JULY 16, SCHUETZ INDICATED HE REGARDED STORIES ABOUT
MAJOR SPLIT BETWEEN HIMSELF AND CHANCELLOR AS GREATLY

EXAGGERATED. HE SAID THERE WAS REALLY NO BASIC
DIFFERENCE OF VIEW ON MOST BERLIN ISSUES BUT THAT
IT WAS INCUMBENT UPON GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN,
WHOEVER HE MIGHT BE, TO TAKE STRONG PUBLIC POSITIONS ON
BERLIN ISSUES. THIS WAS NECESSARY FROM STANDPOINT
OF CITY AND TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD BE POLITICALLY
DAMAGING. COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE HAS CALMED
DONW CONSIDERABLY IN PAST WEEK, THERE HAVING BEEN NO
FURTHER PRONOUNCEMENTS BY SCHUETZ RE EASTERN VIEWS ON
BERLIN STATUS. PERHAPS, AS SENATOR STOBBE COMMENTED TO
MINISTER, "SUMMER THEATER IS OVER."SELIGMANN

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